

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hydrogenated copolymer obtained by hydrogenating a copolymer of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene with a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound and having a softening point falling in a range of 45 to 55°C determined by a ball & ring method, wherein the hydrogenated copolymer has a softening point of 85 to 95°C determined by the ball & ring method.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A production process for hydrogenating a ~~hydrogenated~~ copolymer of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound, said hydrogenated copolymer having a softening point of 85 to 95°C determined by a ball & ring method, comprising hydrogenating ~~[[a]]~~ said copolymer, which has ~~having~~ a softening point falling in a range of 45 to 55°C determined by the ball & ring method.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Original): A hot melt adhesive composition comprising the hydrogenated copolymer as described in claim 1.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The hot melt adhesive composition as described in claim 5, further comprising a base polymer and a plasticizer.

Claim 8 (New): The hydrogenated copolymer of claim 1, wherein the copolymer is obtained from dicyclopentadiene and styrene.

Claim 9 (New): The production process of claim 3, wherein the copolymer is obtained from dicyclopentadiene and styrene.

Claim 10 (New): The hot melt adhesive composition according to claim 5, wherein the copolymer is obtained from dicyclopentadiene and styrene.

Claim 11 (New): The hydrogenated copolymer of claim 1, which copolymer, prior to hydrogenating, has a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound unit content of 30 to 90 mass%, a bromine value of 30 to 90 g/100g, and a number average molecular weight of 400 to 1000.

Claim 12 (New): The hydrogenated copolymer of claim 1, which hydrogenated copolymer has a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound unit content of 0 to 35 mass%, a bromine value of 0 to 30 g/100g, and a number average molecular weight of 400 to 1000.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claims 2 and 4 therein, respectively. Claims 2, 4 and 6 have been canceled.

New Claims 8-12 have been added. Claims 8-10 are supported by Production Examples 1 and 2, described in the specification beginning at page 14, line 3. Claim 11 is supported in the specification at the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8. Claim 12 is supported in the specification at the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7-12 are now pending in the application.